RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED EXAMINING GROUP 3663

Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 09952.0018-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: |) |
|--|----------------------------|
| Renato CAPONI et al. |) Group Art Unit: 3663 |
| Application No.: 10/568,080 |) Examiner: DIACOU, Ari M. |
| Filed: February 13, 2006 |) |
| For: MULTI-STAGE OPTICAL AMPLIFIER OPTIMIZED WITH RESPECT TO NOISE, GAIN AND BANDWIDTH | Confirmation No.: 7439)) |
| Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | |
| Sir: | |

REPLY AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants submit this Reply in response to the final Office Action mailed September 4, 2008, with the concurrent filing of a Notice of Appeal, petition for a two-month extension of time, and requisite fees. Applicants respectfully traverse all pending rejections and request reconsideration of the application, as presently amended.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks follow the amendment sections of this paper.